

Ma/spanishcatholic.pr 03-

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**Councilmembers Leventhal & Perez, Duncan Highlight
Available Health Care
For Spanish Catholic Center Clients
Affected by Gaithersburg Clinic Closure**

County Executive Douglas M. Duncan was joined today by County Councilmembers George Leventhal and Tom Perez and Steve Galen from the Primary Care Coalition to outline health care resources available to clients of the Spanish Catholic Center's Gaithersburg clinic. The Gaithersburg location of the Spanish Catholic Center closed its health care services on July 11, citing financial difficulties.

"While it is always difficult when a health care clinic closes," said Duncan, "the Community Healthlink network of providers set up several years ago has been working together to assist former clients of Spanish Catholic Center in finding a new health care provider. We want to make sure that people know about the other clinics and how they can access care."

"We continue to work with all the providers to assure that the patients affected by the Spanish Catholic Center's closure will continue to have quality health care available to them," said County Councilmember George Leventhal, chair of the Council's Health and Human Services Committee. "We want to make sure that the message is getting to the patients."

(more)

Spanish Catholic Center Closure

2-2-2-2-2

In addition to sending out a letter to patients affected by the clinic closure, beginning August 1, the County's Latino Health Program will provide a Bilingual Health Access Line to help callers identify needed health care services. The access line, **301-270-8432** will be available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The County's Rewarding Work Program, introduced by the County Executive in 1999, includes funding for the safety net health care providers and funding to provide medical care for uninsured children in the Care for Kids programs.

"The County and County Executive's wise decision to fund a 'system of care', including all county clinics, provided the venue for an orderly transfer of Spanish Catholic Center patients to other nearby and culturally appropriate clinics," said Steve Galen, Executive Director of the Primary Care Coalition. "Plans are in place to accommodate patients requiring on-going care and to evaluate the overall patient transfer process over the next six months."

The providers in the Community Healthlink network are:

- **Community Clinic, Inc.**
17 E. North Summit Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD
301-216-0880
Primary care services for adults and children
WIC Services
- Community Clinic, Inc.**
8210 Colonial Lane
Silver Spring, MD
301-585-1250
Primary care services for adults and children
WIC Services

(more)

Spanish Catholic Center Closure

3-3-3-3-3

Community Clinic, Inc.

7676 New Hampshire Avenue

Takoma Park, MD

301-431-2972

Primary care services for children only

WIC Services

- **Mobile Medical Care, Inc**

Van goes to Ascension House each Tuesday

202 S. Summit Avenue

Gaithersburg, MD

Call 301-493-2400 for times and appointments

- **Mercy Health Clinic**

12900 Middlebrook Road

Germantown, MD

301-916-4499

Primary care services for adults

- **Proyecto Salud**

Midcounty Regional Services Center

2424 Reddie Drive

Wheaton, MD

301-962-6173

- **Spanish Catholic Center**

1015 University Boulevard East

Silver Spring, MD

301-343-3999

Primary Care services for adult and children

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